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The existence of bubonic plague has been definitely proven and officially acknowledged in the ports of Iquique, Pisagua, Valparaiso, and in some outlying villages in the immediate vicinity of Concepcion. It is charged by the local newspapers that cases have also occurred at other ports.

The plague, at such places as its existence has been officially recognized, seems to be benignant in character, has been generally localized, and the average of mortality is small. The Chilean sanitary authorities have been diligent in taking precautions against its further spread, and I now believe that the danger of a widespread epidemic has passed, and that it will gradually disappear.

CHINA.

Cholera in Amoy.

Vice-Consul Johnson reports, July 22, that cholera appeared in Amoy about July 15, and has spread since that date.

Reports from Hongkong—Plague.

Passed Assistant Surgeon McMullen reports, August 12, as follows: During the week ended August 8, 1903, 6 vessels, with 379 crew and 242 passengers—117 cabin and 125 steerage—were inspected and granted bills of health; 313 crew and 124 steerage were bathed, and 421 pieces baggage disinfected. There were 9 cases of plague, with 9 deaths, reported for the week—all Chinese. One case enteric fever (European) was also reported for the same period.

Week ended August 22, 1903. Twelve vessels with 875 crew and 252 passengers—152 cabin and 100 steerage—were inspected and granted bills of health; 600 crew and 92 steerage passengers were bathed and 662 pieces baggage disinfected. The army transport *Ingalls*, for Manila, was allowed to proceed to Marivelles for disinfection at the request of the quartermaster-captain.

There were only 4 cases of plague (Chinese) reported for the week, with 3 deaths. Three of these occurred in the city of Victoria and one in adjacent district. One case of enteric fever (European) and one of smallpox (Chinese), fatal, were the only other communicable diseases reported for this period.

It is estimated that about 70 deaths occur daily at Amoy from cholera, and a few cases were reported at Kobe on the 1st instant.

Report from Shanghai—Cholera and smallpox—Plague at Fuchau—Typhus fever in the interior.

Acting Assistant Surgeon Ransom reports, August 12, as follows:

During the week ended August 8, 1903, 1 vessel and 12 cabin and 146 steerage passengers were inspected. One case of bubo was removed from the *Victoria* at the quarantine station for observation, but the subsequent diagnosis was simple axillary bubo. Two cases of elevated temperature discovered at final inspection were noted on bill of health.

Communicable diseases were reported to the municipal health officer as follows: Smallpox, 2 deaths; cholera, 1 death; diphtheria, 3 deaths. The total mortality was 5 foreigners and 143 natives.

September 25, 1903

It will be observed that cholera has again made its appearance in Shanghai. But one death, however, has been officially reported, and from what can be learned there is no apparent increase in the general mortality among the natives, nor in the number of diarrheal diseases. Hence it seems reasonable to believe that there is but little of the disease present as yet. This disease usually makes its appearance here during the latter part of July or early in August.

According to the report received by this office from the consul at Fuchau, Doctor Gracey, plague is epidemic at that place, and the papers state that an epidemic of typhus fever is prevailing in the vicinity of Chengtu, Szechuen Province, in the interior.

COLOMBIA.

Report from Bocas del Toro, fruit port—Smallpox situation improving.

Acting Assistant Surgeon Osterhout reports as follows: Week ended September 8, 1903. Present officially estimated population not obtainable. No cases of smallpox during the week; no deaths; number of deaths from other causes, 2; prevailing diseases, malarial fevers and smallpox. No cases of the latter disease have occurred in the town, but I learn of cases in the villages in the adjacent lagoons. General sanitary condition of this port and the surrounding country during the week, not good. Malarial fever seems to be widespread, but there are very few deaths from this cause.

Bills of health were issued to the following-named vessels:

Date.	Name of vessel.	Number of crew.	Number of passengers from this port.	Number of passengers in transit.	Pieces of baggage disinfected.
Sept. 2	Fort Morgan.....	22	0	0	0
2	Barnstable.....	33	0	0	0
4	Harald.....	17	0	0	0
6	Belvernon.....	21	0	0	0

CUBA.

Sanitary conditions—Hemoglobinuric fever at Daiquiri.

Consul-General Steinhart at Habana reports as follows under date of September 10, 1903:

In view of the fact that this consulate-general for the past week has been flooded with letters, from all parts of the United States, asking information as to the prevalence of "black fever," "plague," or "yellow fever" in the island of Cuba, as published in the leading papers of New York, Chicago, Philadelphia, Omaha, St. Paul, New Orleans, and San Francisco, etc., I have called upon the chief sanitary officer of the Republic of Cuba (who is also president of the superior board of health) for an official statement of facts to enable me to answer the inquiries made.

STATEMENT.

[Inclosure.]

HABANA, CUBA, September 9, 1903.

F. STEINHART,

Consul-General of the United States of America, Habana.

DEAR SIR: In compliance with your request I can assure you that there is not the slightest foundation for the stories that have been published in the newspaper clip-